

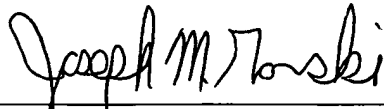
REMARKS

By the current amendment claims 1 and 10 have been amended in view of the telephonic interview conducted with Examiner Buechner on February 17, 2004, with regard to parent application U.S. Serial No. 09/959,924, in an effort to further distinguish the instant invention from the references relied upon by the Examiner to reject claims 25 and 46 of such parent application.

Respectfully submitted,

Tadashi HAGIHARA

By



Joseph M. Gorski
Registration No. 46,500
Attorney for Applicant

JMG/edg
Washington, D.C. 20006-1021
Telephone (202) 721-8200
Facsimile (202) 721-8250
March 12, 2004